

September 16, 2004

TO: G. Burke
FROM: S. Guduru
SUBJECT: Updated Venus Express Loading Study

REFERENCE: Preliminary Venus Express Loading Study by S.Lineaweaver dated 01/16/04.

This study is an update to the study performed in January 2004 for the Venus Express (VEX) mission. It evaluates the effect of Stereo-A and Stereo-B launch requirements on the current supportability of the VEX Mission.

Analysis was accomplished using the FASTER (forecasting and scheduling tool for earth-based resources) forecasting system and the updated mission set database after August 2004 Resource Allocation Review Board (RARB) meeting.

Summary

Venus Express will receive above 90% of the requested time on an average during the period of STA and STB launch through VEX Venus Capture (weeks 06 – 17, 2006) except in week 09 where the supportable time falls below 85%. It has contention with requirements supporting SOHO Antenna Keyhole and MSGR cruise on the 34-meter subnet.

Assumptions

STA and STB launch on 02/11/06.

Updated View periods provided by the project are used for the assessment.

The User Loading Profile (ULP) used for the study is as shown in Figure 1.

Assessment

The study focuses on the period from February 06 through April 30 of 2006. This system models the negotiation process and uses event-based priorities. Therefore, all impact analyses are simply the differences to the baseline mission set with and without the STA and STB missions.

Figure 1 shows the mission events plotted on the User Loading Profile (ULP) with hours requested expressed as passes per week. The colored area highlights the time period on which this study is focused.

Figure 2 shows the supportable percentage of time that VEX can expect to receive from week 06 through week 17 of 2006. It is expected to receive above 90% during this period except in week 09 where the supportable time falls below 85%. VEX is in contention with requirements

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supportability falls below 85% due to contention with requirements supporting SOHO keyhole and MSGR cruise on the 34-meter subnet.

The levels of supportability for the VEX mission reported in this assessment is preliminary and may be effected by pending changes to the baseline mission set. It is recommended that this assessment be followed by an expanded study to include the actual VEX VOI and Capture requirements.

cc:

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